

## Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-11 /088 W  
----- 032913

R 190530Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3451

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 0868

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, CH

SUBJECT: INDIAN OBSERVANCE OF DEATH OF CHOU EN-LAI

REF: NEW DELHI 0817

IN ADDITION TO COMMENT PARA 4 REFTTEL, WE NOW LEARN FROM AN MEA SOURCE THAT THE INDIANS DECIDED TO PROPOSE THE SIGNING OF THE CONDOLENCE BOOK BY MRS. GANDHI BECAUSE CHOU EN-LAI HAD GONE WITH FONMIN CH'EN YI TO SIGN SIMILAR BOOK IN PEKING ON NEHRU'S DEATH. THE INDIAN OBSERVANCE OF NICETIES IN DELHI WAS IDENTICAL WITH THAT FOLLOWED BY CHINESE 12 YEARS AGO, EVEN TO THE NUMBER OF MEA OFFICIALS ACCOMPANYING MRS. GANDHI IN THE SIGNING EXERCISE. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE ARE THUS INCLINED TO DOWNGRADE ANY SIGNIFICANCE AS A "GESTURE" OF "FRIENDSHIP" THE SIGNING MIGHT HAVE, AND CONSIDER IT ONLY AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF INDIAN (AND CHINESE) MUTUAL PUNCTILIOUSNESS IN FOLLOWING ABSOLUTE RECIPROCITY IN THEIR MUTUAL DEALINGS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONDOLENCE MESSAGES, DEATHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NEWDE00868  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760019-0743  
**From:** NEW DELHI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760144/aaaabnch.tel  
**Line Count:** 60  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 NEW DELHI 817  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INDIAN OBSERVANCE OF DEATH OF CHOU EN-LAI  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, CH, IN, (CHOU EN-LAI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006